



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Michael F. Easley, Governor  
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Richard J. Visingardi, Ph.D, Director

September 27, 2002

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: North Carolina Association of County Commissioners  
North Carolina Council of Community Programs  
Area Program Directors  
Area Program Board Chairs  
County Managers  
County Commission Chairs  
Legislative Oversight Committee Members  
MH/DD/SAS Commission Chair  
Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs  
Advocacy Organizations and Groups  
Provider Organizations  
MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups  
MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups  
Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders

FROM: Richard J. Visingardi, Ph.D.

RE: **COMMUNICATION BULLETIN #001**  
**Initial Information/ Instruction**



As we move forward in the implementation of system reform and related planning, there is a need to provide information regarding key developments. These developments include technical modifications, instruction, clarifications, guidance, and/or corrections necessary in a strategic process. This also refers to the publication of the completed products, as referenced in the state's Strategic Plan, and recommendations submitted through stakeholder groups. This series of communications is intended to further advance and apply the foundations, values, intent and requirements of State Plan 2002.

As we move forward, there is a need to provide a single formal communication mechanism that relates to across-the-system development and implementation of the State Plan. Therefore, we have initiated a Communication Bulletin series, under my signature, as the single formal method of communication for State Plan matters of system-wide relevance. This memo series will be numbered and have targeted topic areas. In addition to hard copies, this memo and all subsequent communication series can be downloaded from the DMHDDSAS website – <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/>



It would probably serve you best by keeping these communications with your State Plan and related documents.

Questions regarding this correspondence should be directed to Joan Kaye, Division of MH/DD/SAS, 3001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-3001. Ms. Kaye can be reached by telephone at (919) 733-7011, or by e-mail at [Joan.Kaye@ncmail.net](mailto:Joan.Kaye@ncmail.net)

Thank you.

RJV

cc: Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom  
Lanier Cansler  
James Bernstein  
Mark Van Sciver  
MHDDSAS Staff